

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2004-812

December 14, 2004

CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY
Request for Amendment to
Alternative Winter Disconnection Program

ORDER

WELCH, Chairman; DIAMOND and REISHUS, Commissioners

I. SUMMARY

In this Order, the Commission approves Central Maine Power Company's (CMP) November 29, 2004 request to amend its Alternative Winter Disconnection Program concerning disconnection cycling of tenants during the winter.

II. BACKGROUND AND DECISION

In 1998, the Commission approved a permanent exemption from certain provisions of Chapter 81, § 9(F), 17(D) and 17(I) so that CMP could continue an Alternative Winter Disconnection Program. *Central Maine Power Company, Request for Permanent Exemption from Section 9 and 17 of Chapter 81 of the Commission's Rules*, Docket No. 98-548 (Sept. 28, 1998). One of the features of this program provides an exemption from Section 9(F) allowing CMP to cycle disconnect a customer up to five times on one disconnection notice. The Commission originally approved this exemption in 1994, including CMP's proposal that it not cycle on days when the temperature is below 20°. Since that time, problems have occasionally arisen when landlords are unaware that tenants (who are responsible for payment of electric service) are being cycled and freezing damage occurs to the rental property.

After discussions with CAD, CMP proposed the following as a way to address this situation:

- To address the goal of protecting landlord property from damage due to cycling during freezing weather, CMP will change the temperature threshold from 20 degrees and above to 33 degrees and above.
- If the temperature is expected to fall below 33 degrees during the 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. timeframe, CMP will not perform cycling that day.
- CMP will also attempt to call the landlord after the request for cycling has been approved and before the cycling actually takes place.

We agree that this will help avoid freezing in rental properties due to cycling and we approve this change to CMP's Alternative Winter Disconnection Program.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 14th day of December, 2004.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
 Diamond
 Reishus

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within **21 days** of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.